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PART 4 OF 4
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SEGA
SONIC UNIVERSE
DIRECT EDITION
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Tracy Yardley Hunzeker

Welcome to the planet Mobius – a world beyond what you know from the SEGA games!
We look 30 years into the future of Sonic to see what might come to be!

THIRTY YEARS INTO THE FUTURE... THE REMAINS OF CASTLE MOBIUS, ANGEL ISLAND
PERFECT TIKHAOS SPIRIT AND GOD COMBINED
MOBIUS: 30 YEARS LATER
The FREEDOM FIGHTERS of the FUTURE

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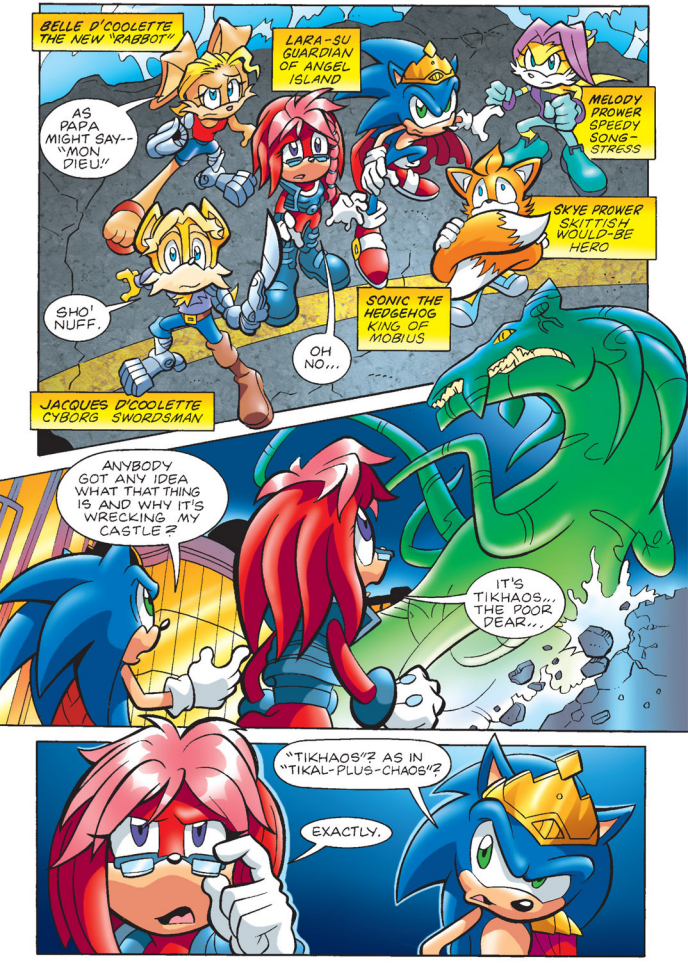
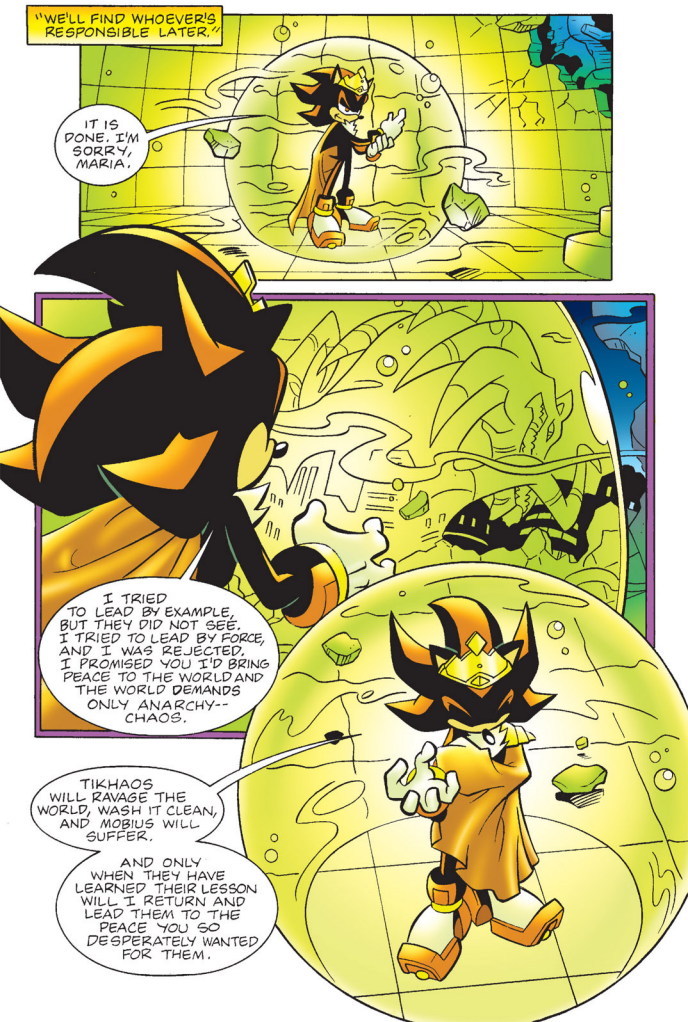
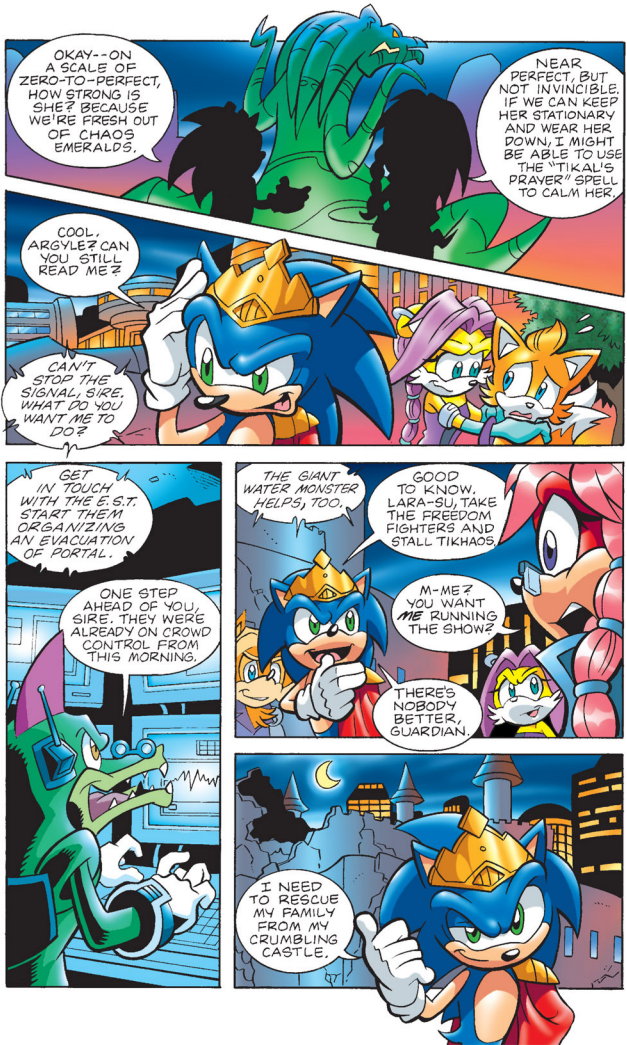
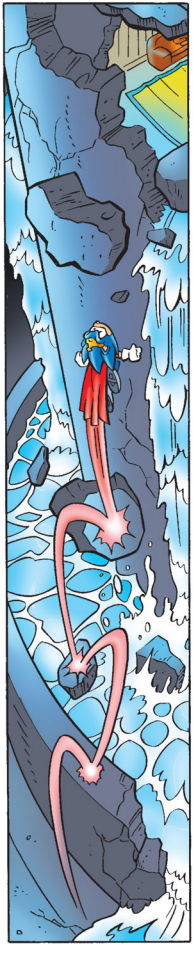

BELLE D'COOLETTE THE NEW "RABBOT"
LARA-SU GUARDIAN OF ANGEL ISLAND
MELODY PROWER SPEEDY SONG-STRESS
AS PAPA MIGHT SAY-- "MON DIEU!"
SKYE PROWER SKITTISH WOULD-BE HERO
SHO' NUFF.
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG KING OF MOBIUS
OH NO...
JACQUES D'COOLETTE CYBORG SWORDSMAN
ANYBODY GOT ANY IDEA WHAT THAT THING IS AND WHY IT'S WRECKING MY CASTLE?
IT'S TIKHAOS... THE POOR DEAR...
"TIKHAOS"? AS IN "TIKAL-PLUS-CHAOS"?
EXACTLY.

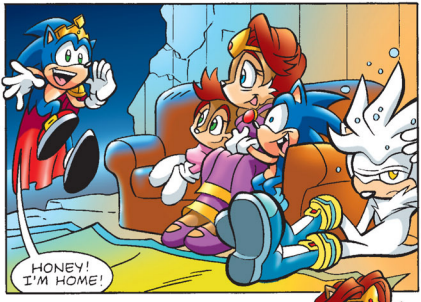
YOU DO NOT RECALL THE IXIS RESURGENCE OR THE ELEMENTAL WAR?
NO. I KIND OF WROTE MYSELF OUT OF THE TIMELINE WHEN I WENT BACK TO FIX IT. SUE ME.
TO SUMMARIZE-- THE SPIRIT TIKAL HAD TO FUSE WITH THE WATER GOD CHAOS AND BECAME A VERY UNSTABLE BEING, ESPECIALLY WHEN EXPOSED TO CHAOS ENERGY.
"AND I'M SENSING A LOT OF CHAOS ENERGY IN HER."
WE HAD HER SEALED AWAY FOR EVERYONE'S PROTECTION. SO HOW DID SHE GET THAT MUCH CHAOS ENERGY?
I DOUBT EVEN THE DARK PRESENCE WOULD BE CRAZY ENOUGH TO UNLEASH HER.
NONE OF THAT MATTERS RIGHT NOW. WE'VE GOT AN ISLAND-- AND A PLANET-- TO SAVE.

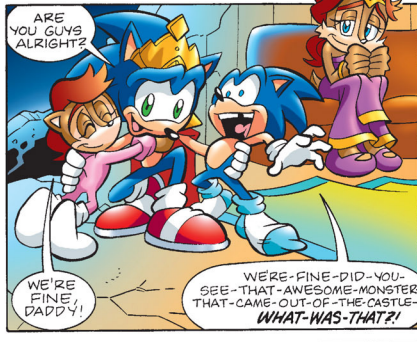

"WE'LL FIND WHOEVER'S RESPONSIBLE LATER."
IT IS DONE. I'M SORRY, MARIA.
I TRIED TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE, BUT THEY DID NOT SEE. I TRIED TO LEAD BY FORCE, AND I WAS REJECTED. I PROMISED YOU I'D BRING PEACE TO THE WORLD AND THE WORLD DEMANDS ONLY ANARCHY--CHAOS.
TIKHAOS WILL RAVAGE THE WORLD, WASH IT CLEAN, AND MOBIUS WILL SUFFER.
AND ONLY WHEN THEY HAVE LEARNED THEIR LESSON WILL I RETURN AND LEAD THEM TO THE PEACE YOU SO DESPERATELY WANTED FOR THEM.

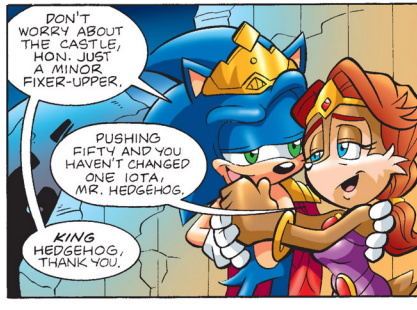

OKAY--ON A SCALE OF ZERO-TO-PERFECT, HOW STRONG IS SHE? BECAUSE WE'RE FRESH OUT OF CHAOS EMERALDS.
NEAR PERFECT, BUT NOT INVINCIBLE. IF WE CAN KEEP HER STATIONARY AND WEAR HER DOWN, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO USE THE "TIKAL'S PRAYER" SPELL TO CALM HER.
COOL. ARGYLE? CAN YOU STILL READ ME?
CAN'T STOP THE SIGNAL, SIRE. WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
GET IN TOUCH WITH THE E.S.T. START THEM ORGANIZING AN EVACUATION OF PORTAL.
ONE STEP AHEAD OF YOU, SIRE. THEY WERE ALREADY ON CROWD CONTROL FROM THIS MORNING.
THE GIANT WATER MONSTER HELPS, TOO.
GOOD TO KNOW. LARA-SU, TAKE THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND STALL TIKHAOS.
M-ME? YOU WANT ME RUNNING THE SHOW?
THERE'S NOBODY BETTER, GUARDIAN.
I NEED TO RESCUE MY FAMILY FROM MY CRUMBLING CASTLE.

Hoo-boy... OKAY!
JACQUES, BELLE, I WANT YOU ON FRONTAL ASSAULT. KEEP HER FROM MOVING FORWARD.
YOU CAN COUNT ON US, MISS.
OUI, CAPITAINE.
MELODY-- SKYE? CAN I ASK YOU GUYS TO RUN INTERFERENCE?
OH I'LL RUN, ALL RIGHT. THAT THING WON'T KNOW WHERE I CAME FROM!
I-I-I'LL HELP. I'LL D-DO MY BEST.
FREEDOM FIGHTERS--GO!



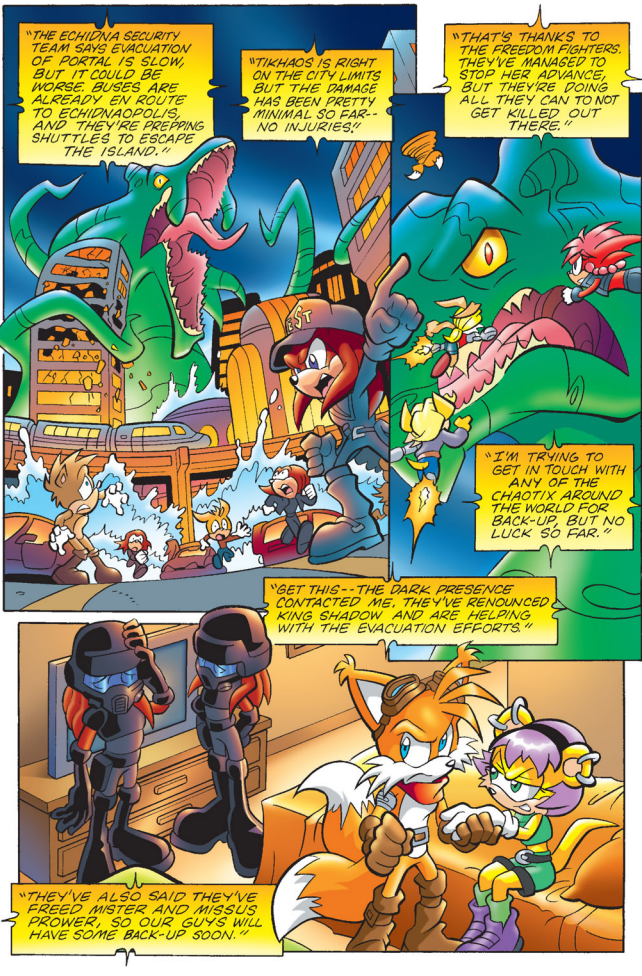

HONEY! I'M HOME!


ARE YOU GUYS ALRIGHT?
WE'RE FINE, DADDY!
WE'RE-FINE-DID-YOU-SEE-THAT-AWESOME-MONSTER-THAT-CAME-OUT-OF-THE-CASTLE-WHAT-WAS-THAT?!

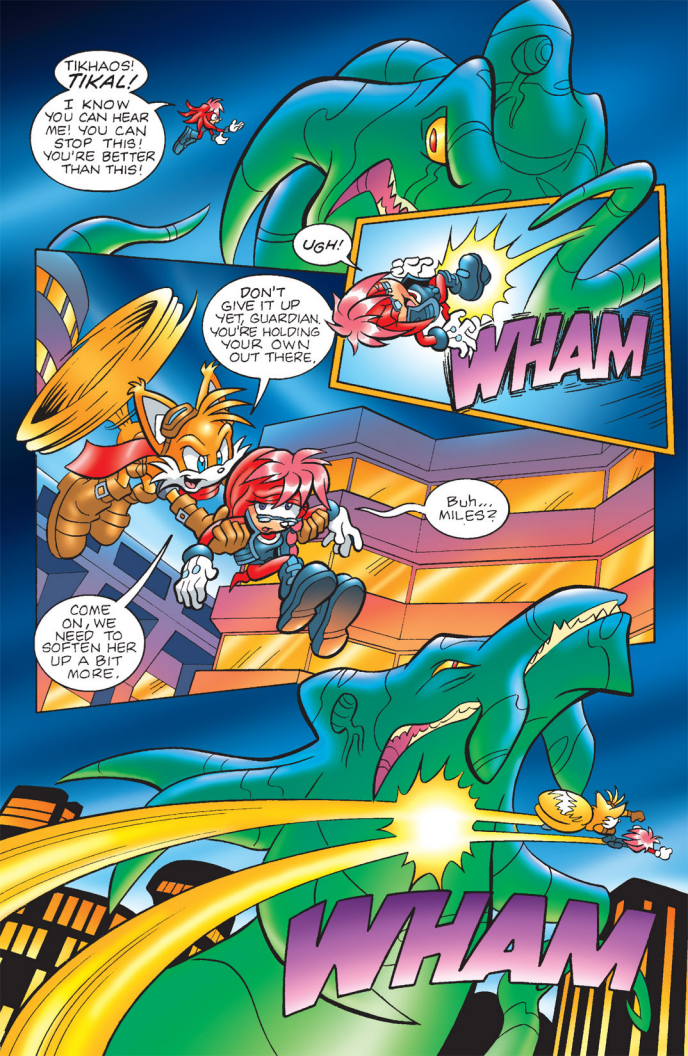

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE CASTLE, HON. JUST A MINOR FIXER-UPPER.
PUSHING FIFTY AND YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED ONE IOTA, MR. HEDGEHOG.
KING HEDGEHOG, THANK YOU.

GOOD MORNING, SLEEPYHEAD.
Ergh... I TOLD YOU THIS WOULD HAPPEN.
DOES THIS MATCH THE TYPE OF RUINATION IN YOUR FUTURE?
POCKETS OF CIVILIZATION STRUGGLING AGAINST A GLOBAL SEA THAT SEEMS TO HAVE A GRUDGE?
YEAH, I'D SAY THIS FITS.
WHOOPS!
WELL, I TOOK YOUR ADVICE AND GOT SOME FREEDOM FIGHTERS TOGETHER AND THEY'RE ON THE CASE. ARE YOU BACK TO FULL POWER?
I-- um-- CLOSE ENOUGH?
GOOD!
OKAY, KIDS, IT'S TIME TO PLAY FOLLOW THE LEADER! DO JUST LIKE I DO AND WE'LL GO DOWN THE CASTLE, OKAY?
OKAY!
ON THE OUTSIDE?! AWESOME!
THIS I REMEMBER, OH BOY...

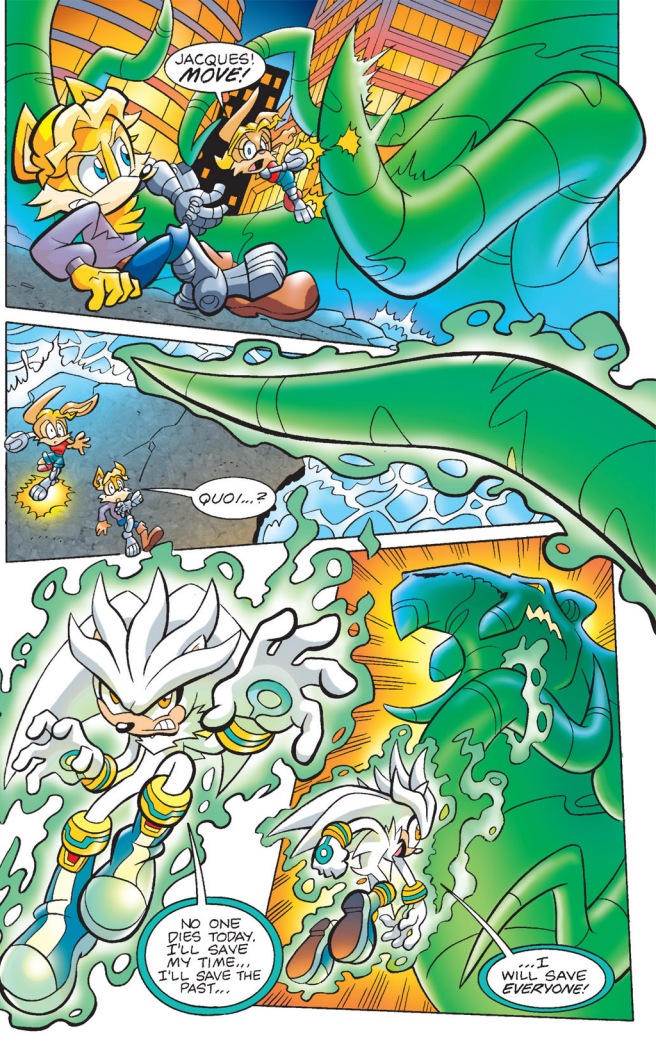
I BET I CAN GET DOWN FASTER!
NUH-UH! I CAN!
SONIA! MANIK! NOT NOW, KIDS! JUST FOLLOW DADDY.
EEE-HEE-HEE-- EEEEEK!
SORRY, DAD.
YOU'RE DOING GREAT! KEEP IT UP!
ARE YOU THERE, ARGYLE? I COULD USE AN UPDATE.
SORRY, SIRE, THERE'S A LOT OF COM-TRAFFIC RIGHT NOW...


"THE ECHIDNA SECURITY TEAM SAYS EVACUATION OF PORTAL IS SLOW, BUT IT COULD BE WORSE. BUSES ARE ALREADY EN ROUTE TO ECHIDNAOPOLIS, AND THEY'RE PREPPING SHUTTLES TO ESCAPE THE ISLAND."
"TIKHAOS IS RIGHT ON THE CITY LIMITS BUT THE DAMAGE HAS BEEN PRETTY MINIMAL SO FAR--NO INJURIES."
"THAT'S THANKS TO THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS. THEY'VE MANAGED TO STOP HER ADVANCE, BUT THEY'RE DOING ALL THEY CAN TO NOT GET KILLED OUT THERE."
"I'M TRYING TO GET IN TOUCH WITH ANY OF THE CHAOTIX AROUND THE WORLD FOR BACK-UP, BUT NO LUCK SO FAR."
"GET THIS--THE DARK PRESENCE CONTACTED ME. THEY'VE RENOUNCED KING SHADOW AND ARE HELPING WITH THE EVACUATION EFFORTS."
"THEY'VE ALSO SAID THEY'VE FREED MISTER AND MISSUS PROWER, SO OUR GUYS WILL HAVE SOME BACK-UP SOON."

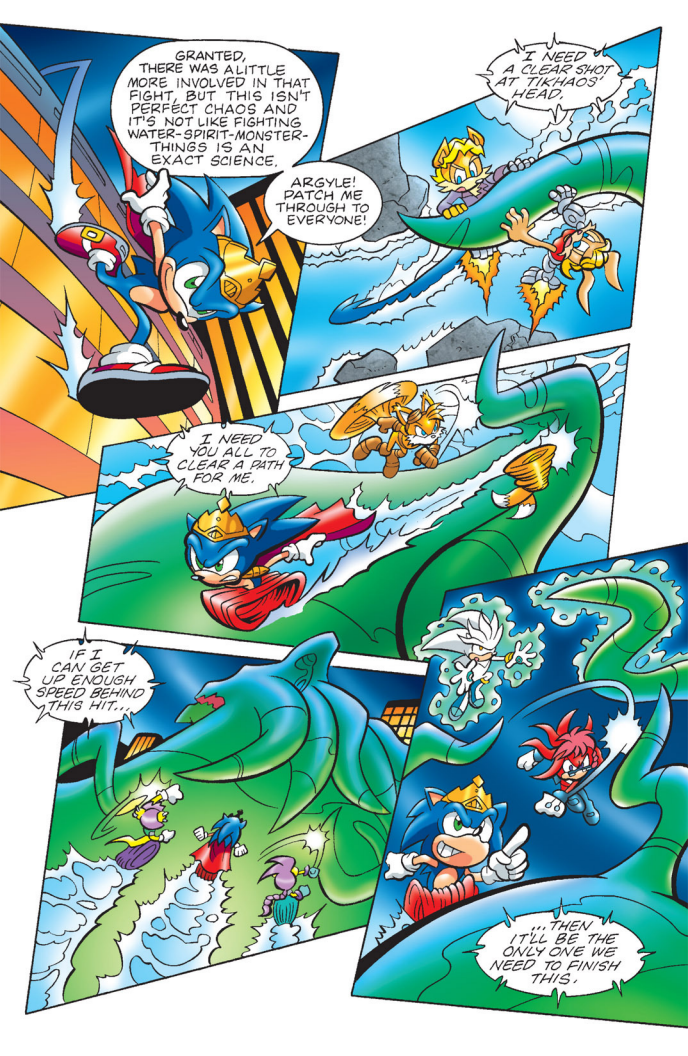
HA!
LOOK OUT!
THOOM
Ah, MY HÉROINE, MERCI.
THUD
THUD
THOOM
OH, WELL... hee!
DON'T OVER-DO IT, PETIT.

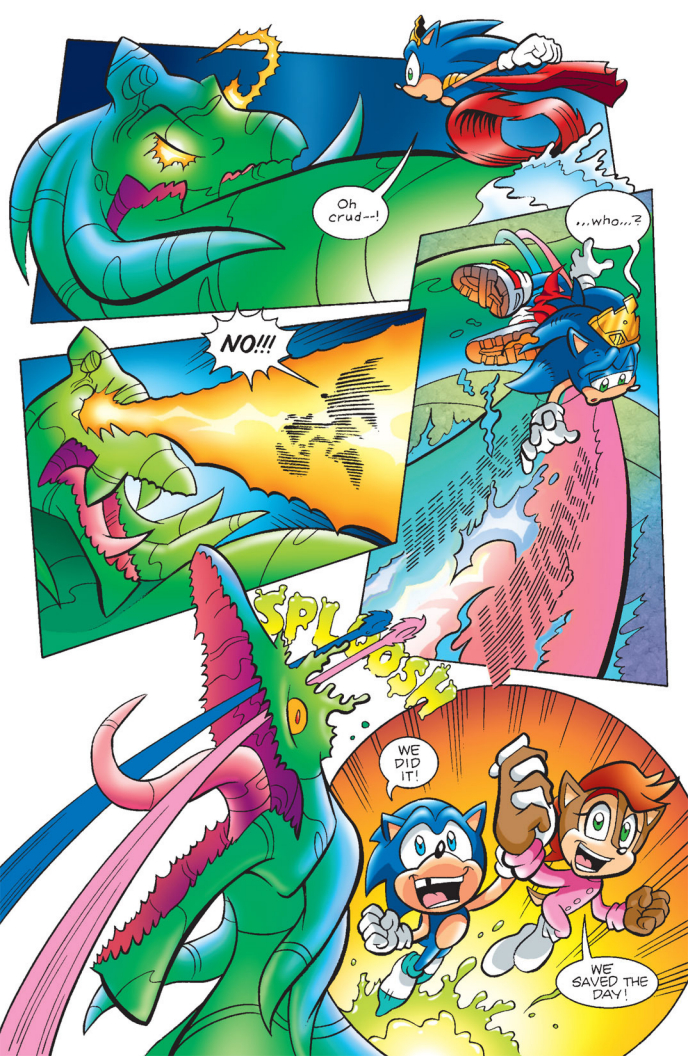

TIKHAOS! TIKAL! I KNOW YOU CAN HEAR ME! YOU CAN STOP THIS! YOU'RE BETTER THAN THIS!
UGH!
WHAM
DON'T GIVE IT UP YET, GUARDIAN. YOU'RE HOLDING YOUR OWN OUT THERE.
Buh... MILES?
COME ON, WE NEED TO SOFTEN HER UP A BIT MORE.
WHAM

SLAM
WHAT ARE THE TWO OF YOU DOING IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS?!
MOOO-OOM!
KING SONIC MADE US PART OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS! AFTER WE BEAT THIS MONSTER WE WERE GOING TO RESCUE YOU!
PLEASE, MOM! I WANT TO HELP! REALLY!
"FREEDOM FIGHTERS"? WHEN DID THE TWO OF YOU GROW UP SO FAST?
I'M GOING TO HAVE TO HAVE A TALK WITH SONIC, THOUGH.
YOU CAN'T JUST "TALK TO" THE KING LIKE THAT!
SURE I CAN! WE'VE GOT A HISTORY.

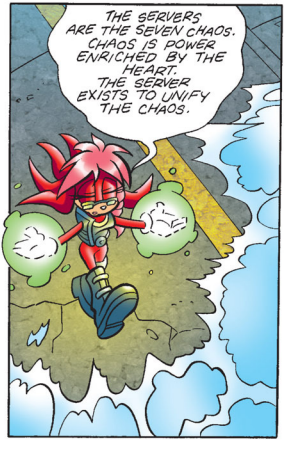

JACQUES! MOVE!
QUOI...?
NO ONE DIES TODAY. I'LL SAVE MY TIME,,, I'LL SAVE THE PAST...
,,,I WILL SAVE EVERYONE!

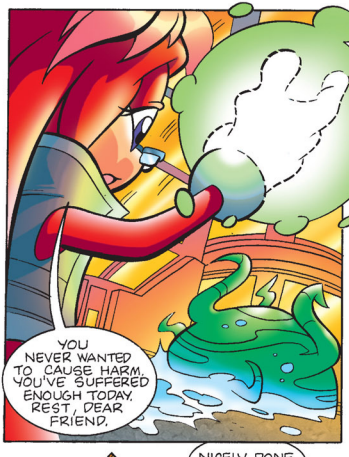
SIRE? IT'S ARGYLE!
GO AHEAD.
THEY'VE GOT TIKHAOS STATIONARY, BUT I DON'T KNOW IF THEY CAN KEEP THIS KIND OF ASSAULT UP.
PATCH ME THROUGH TO LARA-SU.
LARA, IT'S SONIC. WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO TO BRING HER DOWN?
WE'RE NOT WEAKENING HER ENOUGH. WE NEED TO TAKE THE FIGHT OUT OF HER FAST OR SHE'LL JUST ENDURE US.
DAD! HEY DAD!
WHY DON'T YOU HIT IT IN THE BRAIN LIKE BEFORE?
BEFORE?
YEAH, WHEN YOU FOUGHT PERFECT CHAOS WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG.
"WHEN I WAS YOUNG." OUCH.
YOUR BIGGEST FANS DO HAVE A POINT.
AND A PLAN, AT THAT.

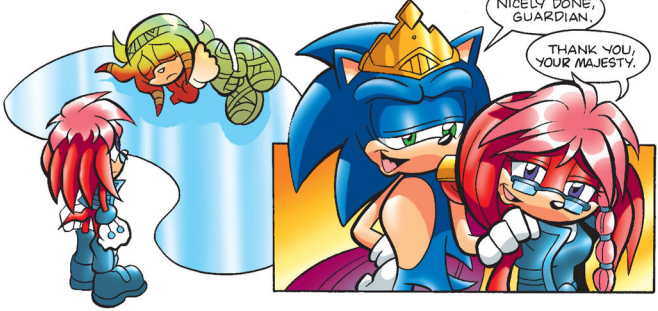

GRANTED, THERE WAS A LITTLE MORE INVOLVED IN THAT FIGHT, BUT THIS ISN'T PERFECT CHAOS AND IT'S NOT LIKE FIGHTING WATER-SPIRIT-MONSTER-THINGS IS AN EXACT SCIENCE.
ARGYLE! PATCH ME THROUGH TO EVERYONE!
I NEED A CLEAR SHOT AT TIKHAOS' HEAD.
I NEED YOU ALL TO CLEAR A PATH FOR ME.
IF I CAN GET UP ENOUGH SPEED BEHIND THIS HIT...
...THEN IT'LL BE THE ONLY ONE WE NEED TO FINISH THIS.

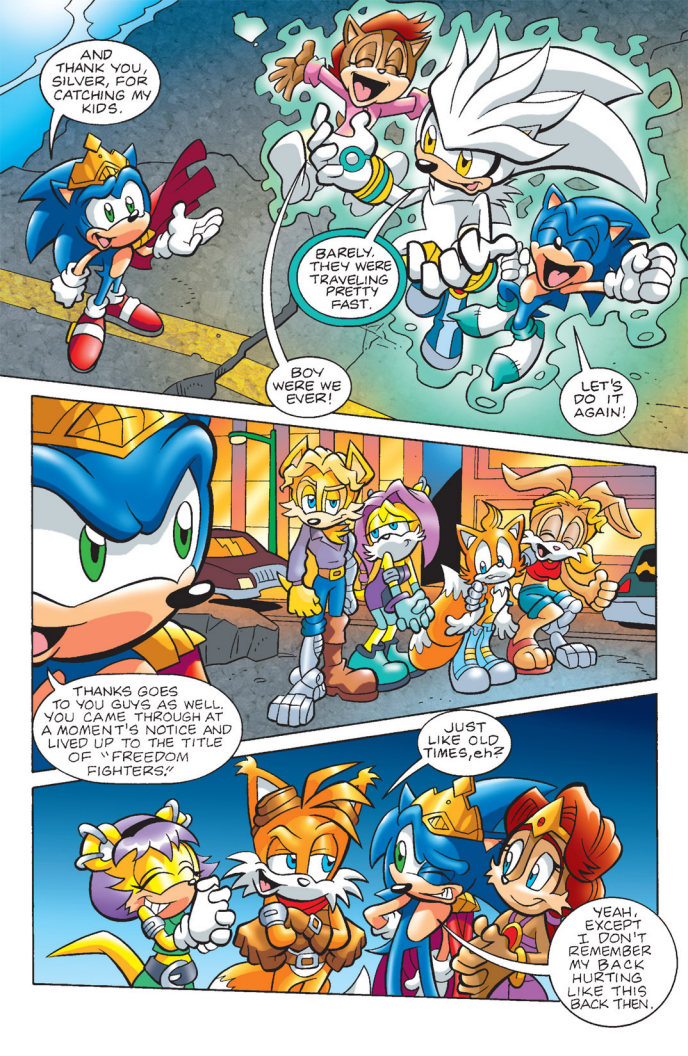

Oh crud--!
...who...?
NO!!!
SPLOSH
WE DID IT!
WE SAVED THE DAY!

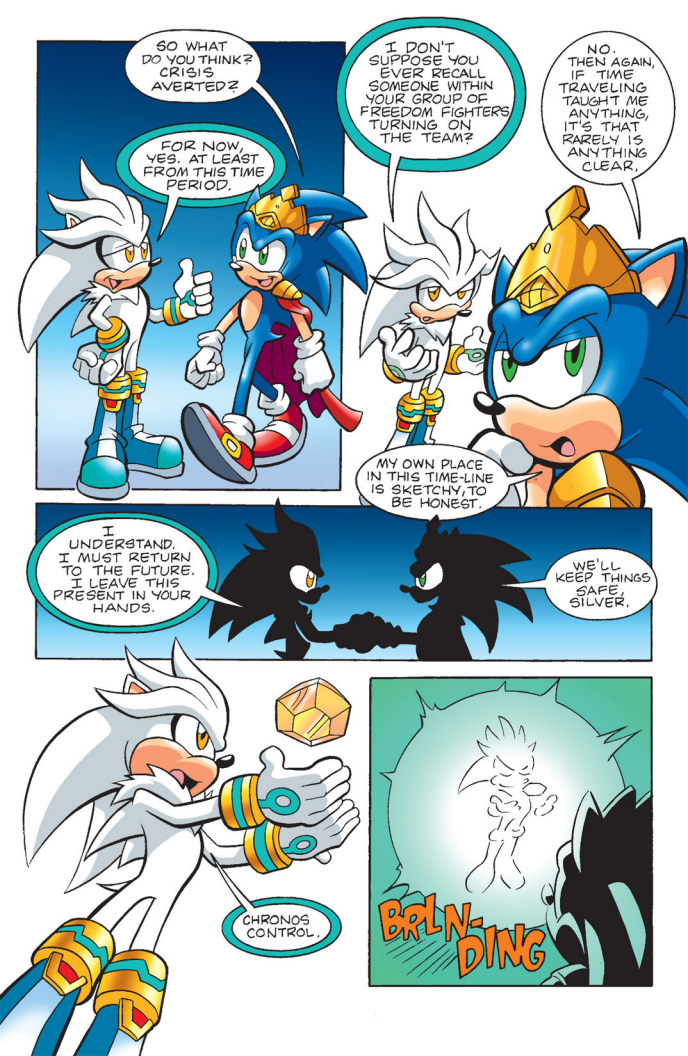
KER-SPLASH

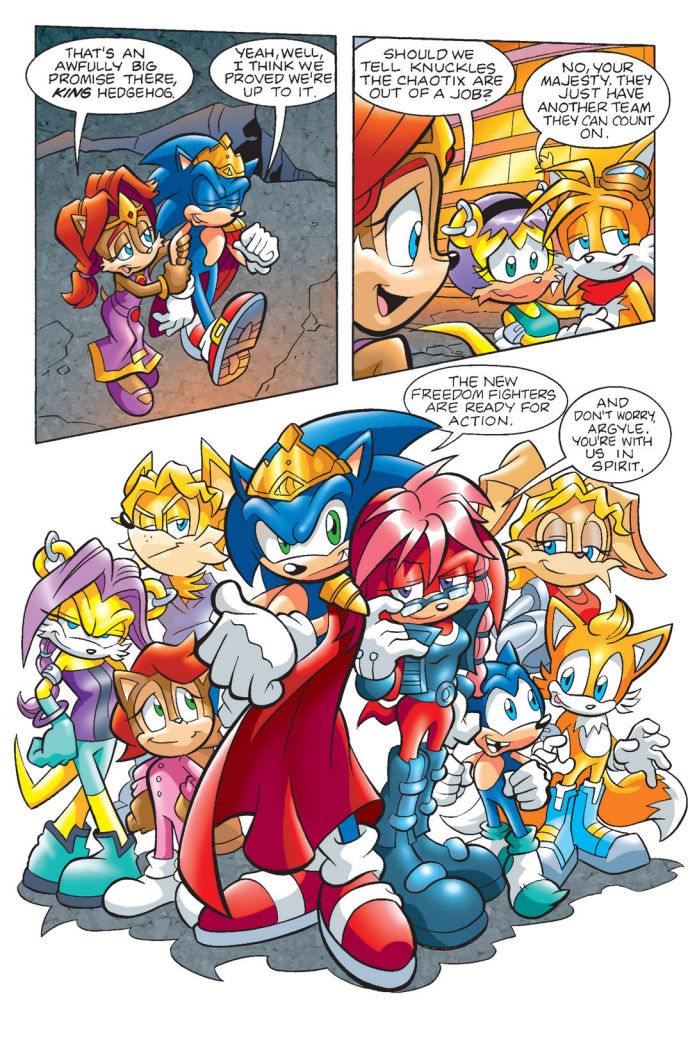

THE SERVERS ARE THE SEVEN CHAOS. CHAOS IS POWER ENRICHED BY THE HEART. THE SERVER EXISTS TO UNIFY THE CHAOS.


YOU NEVER WANTED TO CAUSE HARM. YOU'VE SUFFERED ENOUGH TODAY. REST, DEAR FRIEND.


NICELY DONE, GUARDIAN.
THANK YOU, YOUR MAJESTY.


AND THANK YOU, SILVER, FOR CATCHING MY KIDS.
BARELY. THEY WERE TRAVELING PRETTY FAST.
BOY WERE WE EVER!
LET'S DO IT AGAIN!
THANKS GOES TO YOU GUYS AS WELL. YOU CAME THROUGH AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE AND LIVED UP TO THE TITLE OF "FREEDOM FIGHTERS."
JUST LIKE OLD TIMES, eh?
YEAH, EXCEPT I DON'T REMEMBER MY BACK HURTING LIKE THIS BACK THEN.


SO WHAT DO YOU THINK? CRISIS AVERTED?
FOR NOW, YES. AT LEAST FROM THIS TIME PERIOD.
I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU EVER RECALL SOMEONE WITHIN YOUR GROUP OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS TURNING ON THE TEAM?
NO. THEN AGAIN, IF TIME TRAVELING TAUGHT ME ANYTHING, IT'S THAT RARELY IS ANYTHING CLEAR.
MY OWN PLACE IN THIS TIME-LINE IS SKETCHY, TO BE HONEST.
I UNDERSTAND. I MUST RETURN TO THE FUTURE. I LEAVE THIS PRESENT IN YOUR HANDS.
WE'LL KEEP THINGS SAFE, SILVER.
CHRONOS CONTROL.
BRLN-DING


THAT'S AN AWFULLY BIG PROMISE THERE, KING HEDGEHOG.
YEAH, WELL, I THINK WE PROVED WE'RE UP TO IT.
SHOULD WE TELL KNUCKLES THE CHAOTIX ARE OUT OF A JOB?
NO, YOUR MAJESTY. THEY JUST HAVE ANOTHER TEAM THEY CAN COUNT ON.
THE NEW FREEDOM FIGHTERS ARE READY FOR ACTION.
AND DON'T WORRY, ARGYLE. YOU'RE WITH US IN SPIRIT.

EPILOGUE
DOWNUNDA--
CRATER RIM
FWASH
YOU WERE RIGHT, DOCTOR. ANGEL ISLAND WILL BE OVER US BY TOMORROW.
HOW ARE YOU HANDLING THE ANTICIPATION, GRANDMASTER?
PERSONALLY, I'M DYING TO SEE KNUCKLES AGAIN.

What is Dr. Finitevus doing in Knuckles' ancestral homeland of Downunda? Who is he talking with, and what are they plotting for Angel Island?

All this and some old familiar faces in next month's

SONIC UNIVERSE!